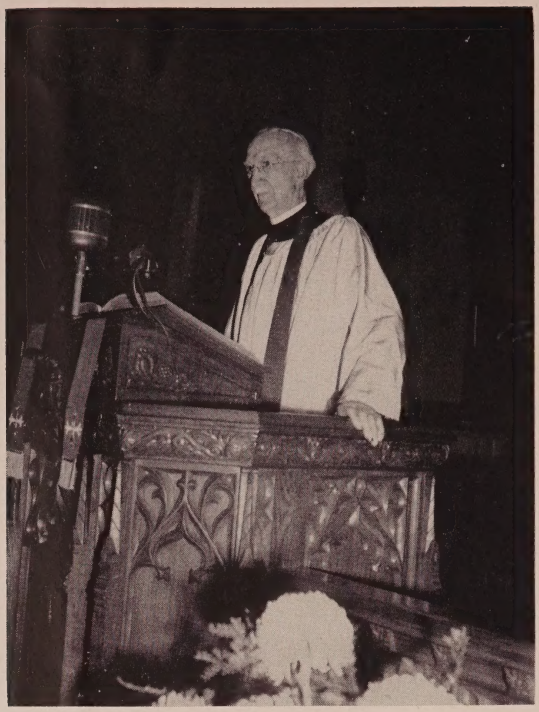
"That Thy Name Be Glorified"

INTERIOR PERSPECTIVE

Christ Lutheran Church

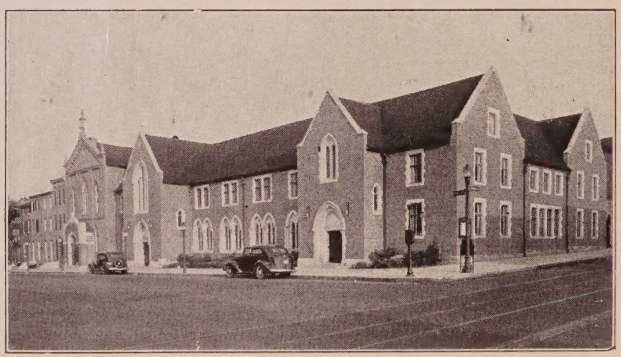
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

"The Lord hath chosen thee to build a house for the sanctuary: be strong, and do it."
—I Chronicles 28:10



On September 24, 1944, Dr. Zimmerman stood in this pulpit and recommended to the congregation that we work and plan for the erection of a new Church to replace the old Church which is rapidly decaying and is no longer adequate for the needs of a modern congregation.

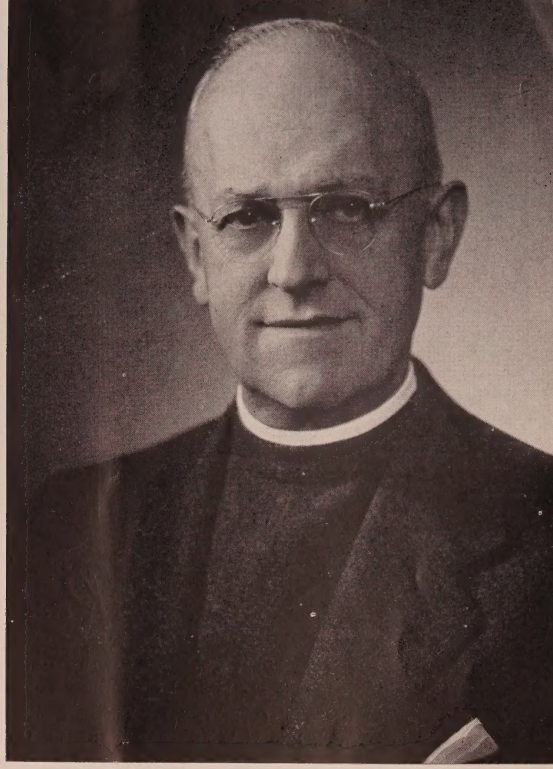
To the Glory of God
and to the memory of our beloved Founder
we reverently dedicate this Brochure.



The Leander M. Zimmerman Parish House was erected in 1935-36 and named in honor of the beloved Pastor Emeritus. It is one of the finest Parish Houses in the entire United Lutheran Church.

The Children's Chapel in this building is an architectural gem and is visited every year by many people from all sections of the country. It is open daily from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. for prayer and meditation.

A Message From Our Pastor



Dear Members and Friends:

What a privilege to greet you as we enter upon a new era in the life of our beloved Church.

Twenty years ago we erected the Leander Zimmerman Parish House. Up to that time, covering forty-eight years of our history, we had no physical equipment for all our activities except our old second-hand Church and two old houses on Hill Street. Now we have one of the finest Parish Houses in the whole Church.

Today, we are taking the second and final step—the erection of the Greater Christ Church. For sixty-eight years we have been thinking, dreaming and talking about an adequate Church for our great congregation. We have postponed and delayed for one reason or another. The time has come when something must be done. The termites are working below and three weeks ago rain poured in from the roof.

Let no one say that our location is not good. That has always been our excuse for doing nothing. The unique thing about our Church, and that which makes it the "talk" of our city and the whole Church, is that we maintain our strength and give such an effective witness in this location. If we ever leave here, we shall be just another "run-of-the-mill" Church and only about one-third our present strength. God placed us here, prospered us here, and wants us to remain here. We can be a much greater Church than we now are if we stop making excuses and put our hands and hearts and pocketbooks to the task that God has given us to do.

Never before have we undertaken to build a Church. Two generations have missed the joy and the blessing of building a temple to the glory of God. Now this privilege is ours. It will not be ours again in the history of this Church.

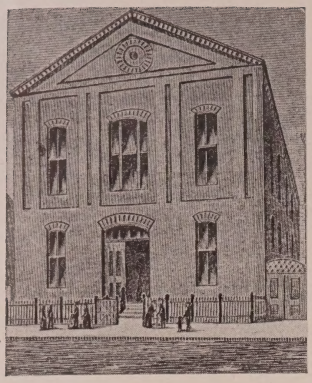
It is no small task. It will require sacrificial effort and sacrificial giving. Otherwise it would hold no blessing for us. Do not miss this opportunity to do something Big for God and open the door for Him to do something Big for you.

Yours for a Greater Christ Church,

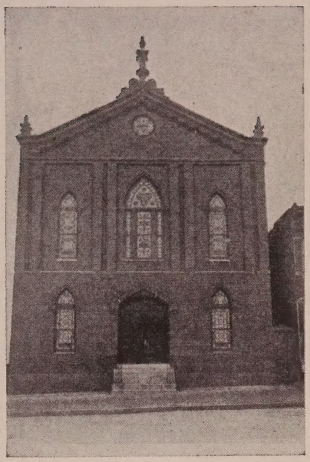
Sincerely,

JOHN L. DEATON,
Pastor

P.S. Think where our Church will be twenty years from now if we miss our opportunity!! Right where our Bible School would be without the Parish House.



1888-1894



1894-1919

1919-1955

Past and Present

The aspect of our history which occupies our attention at this time relates to our physical equipment.

The first service of Christ Lutheran Church was held in Triumph Hall, 1240 Light St., on December 18, 1887. The congregation was officially organized on February 5, 1888 with 215 charter members.

The most urgent need of the young congregation was a proper place of worship. There was neither time nor money with which to build if this rapidly growing congregation was not to be hindered in its progress. It seemed providential that a church building became available for purchase in this community at that particular moment. The building you see in the upper corner was purchased for $8,000. from a Methodist congregation, and on August 18, 1888 the first service was held here by Christ Lutheran Church. After necessary renovations and repairs were made, it was dedicated on November 25, 1888. The indebtedness incurred was paid in full by January 1892.

In 1894 the church was remodelled to accommodate the growing congregation. The exterior changes consisted of a metal cornice on the gable facing Hill St., changing the almost square-headed windows to gothic, and installing stained glass. On the interior, the chancel was taken from the South end of the building where it belonged and placed on the East side. Balconies were erected on the South and West sides. This increased the seating capacity but did not add to the cube of the building. Building and health codes today do not permit any new building to have so much seating capacity with so few cubic feet of air per person. New pews, chancel furniture, etc. were installed. We have no record showing the cost of these alterations but whatever debt was incurred was paid in full by 1900.

From 1894 to 1936 no major change was made in our place of worship. The only addition of which we have knowledge was the brick and stone entrance on Hill St. erected in 1918 or 1919.

Our greatest forward step in physical equipment took place in 1935 and 1936. During this period we erected the Leander Zimmerman Parish House, rebuilt and refurnished the chancel, relighted and redecorated the nave. The total cost of this project, which included the purchase of thirteen pieces of property and the erection of a very fine parsonage, was $225,000. Within six years we were again free of all debt.

Now we are taking the next step, the greatest in our history. At long last we are going to build a church home for our wonderful congregation. We have little choice in the matter. Our old building is almost one hundred years old. It was never very well designed nor well constructed, and it cannot be made into a sound structure without complete rebuilding from the foundation up. Even this would not give us a first floor church large enough to accommodate more than one-fourth of our congregation. Then we would have no place for the Men's Bible Class, the Junior Dept. and other groups. We must build the church alongside of our present building extending from Hill to Hughes St. and rebuild the present structure for the organizations mentioned above.

Our new church has been designed by one of the best church architects in the country. The lines are plain and simple, conforming to the general style of our parish house. We hope to enrich the interior and make it a most attractive and beautiful place of worship. We believe that we shall have a church of which you will be proud and one that will contribute greatly to the enrichment of your spiritual life.

The only thing that we ask is your loyal support. You have never been asked to build a church before while a member of Christ Church. You, your children, your grandchildren will never be asked to build another if you remain in Christ Church. If every member will give as God has prospered him, we can say in another five years, "We have no debt". Meanwhile the blessing of God will come to you for the investment which you have made in His Kingdom.

"Ye have compassed this place long enough: Rise ye up and go forward"—Deuteronomy 2

ROBERT S. PYLE

PAUL I. FOLKEMER

Our Greatest Need

Many of us have never shared in the building of a Church home. Through the generosity of others we have been privileged to worship in churches which have been built through the sacrificial efforts of others. We now find ourselves placed together in a situation where our immediate need is to build, for worship and spiritual leadership.

However, we know that OUR GREATEST NEED is not "how much our Church needs," but rather "HOW MUCH WE NEED TO GIVE."

Increased giving—as has been proved many times over—will develop greatly increased interest in our Church and in our own spiritual lives. Every family should look upon this Building Fund Canvass as the opportunity to make the greatest sacrifice of their lifetime for their faith.

Therefore, our Canvass Leaders are making every effort to set the pace with generous, sacrificial commitments to inspire all of our families to become better givers.

This is a challenge to all of us! It is a call to service and Christian Stewardship which offers each an opportunity to measure up to our Christian obligation and responsibility. On the foundation stones of Faith, Prayer and Sacrifice we will be successful.

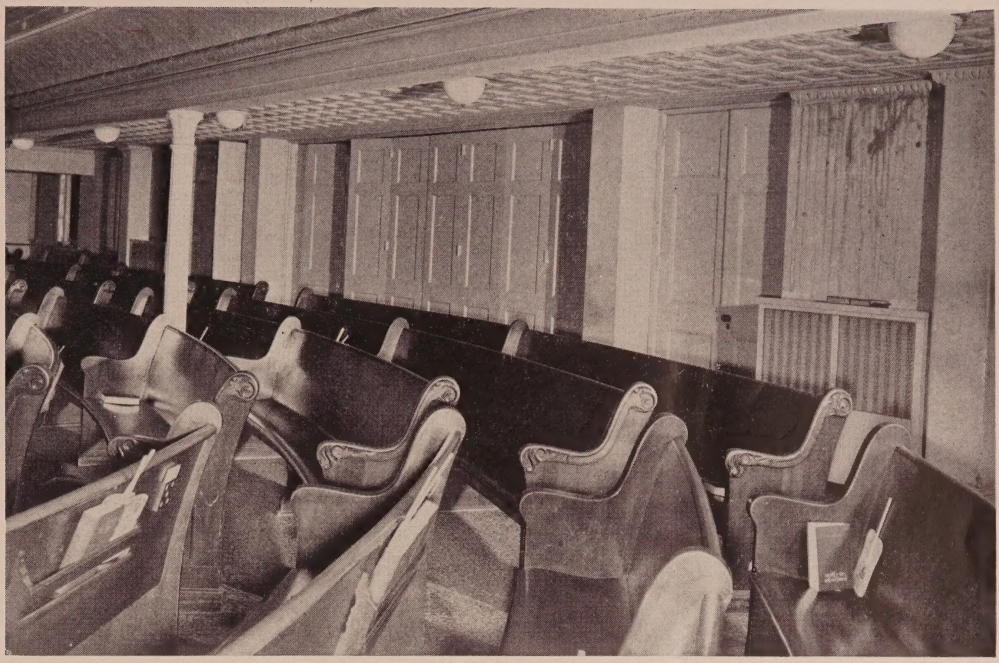
We wish to thank you for the honor you have bestowed on us in our appointment as leaders in this Canvass, and we now ask your prayers that in all things we may be guided to do His will.

PAUL I. FOLKEMER,
General Chairman

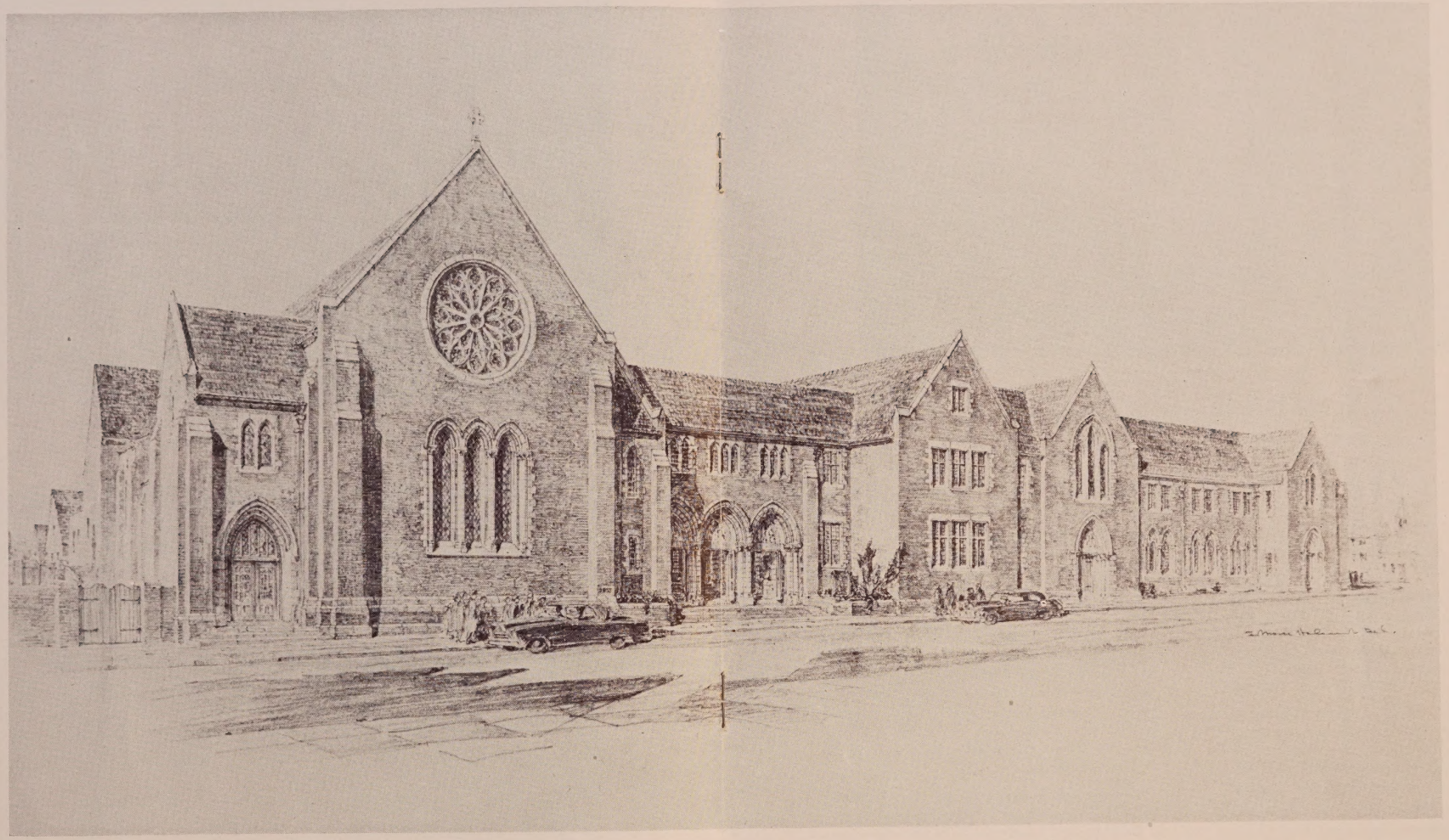
ROBERT S. PYLE,
Canvass Committee Chairman

"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." —I Corinthians 2:9

Hymn
424
333
272



These pictures tell the story of difficulty and deterioration in our present Church. Look at those stairs with the faithful member struggling to climb the second flight. Second story Churches are passe. Look at the low, oppressive ceiling, the crumbling and stained plaster, the hard uncomfortable pews, the unsightly ventilating outlets and think of all the other objectionable features not revealed in these few pictures. Contrast all this with the picture of the interior of the Greater Christ Church.



The Day of Realization Is About to Dawn!

"See that thou make all things according to the pattern showed thee in the mount."—Hebrews 8:5

Our Plan to Meet Our Needs

CANVASS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Left to Right, (Seated) Robert S. Pyle, Dr. John L. Deaton, Mrs. William E. Dodge, Paul I. Folkemer, Leander M. Funk, (Standing) Robert L. Eirich, J. Charles Strott, William E. Dodge, John R. Heinzerling, Vernon J. Congleton.

Canvass Plan — An Organized Intensive Plan for the Building Fund

In order to raise the Canvass Goal of $250,000, it has been agreed that we will conduct between now and October 12, 1955

An Organized Intensive Face-to-Face Solicitation in the Homes For Building Fund Commitments Over a 150-Week Period. Payments begin October 16, 1955.

Solicitations will be limited to member families, prospective Church members, parents of Sunday School children, and any other persons and families who consider themselves affiliated with our Church, but who are not technically members.

Individual face-to-face solicitations mean that there will be no group—no meetings—nor will any solicitations be conducted by mail. Instead, a sufficient number of our Churchmen have been enlisted, qualified and organized as canvassers to visit and solicit each family of the Church individually and privately. The intensive aspect of this Canvass means that we will concentrate our efforts to obtain commitments from every member family during an intensive two-week solicitation period, which will avoid the necessity for a long drawn out follow-up program.

This will be primarily a Canvass for 150-week commitments. Families contributing more than $1,500 may consider semi-annual or annual payments, but all families contributing $1,500 or less will be encouraged to use the 150-week payment method. Contributions and even initial cash payments on commitments will be discouraged during the Canvass period.

The use of commitments over a 150-week period is a basic requirement of this Canvass, because it has been proved many times that the only manner in which the members and friends of a Church of this size can provide $250,000 for a development program is not by cash contributions, but by subscription to the payment of sacrificial amounts weekly over a three-year period.

"Your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions." —Joel 2:28

Suggested Standard of Giving

The possibility of our Church raising $250,000 in Building Fund contributions will depend entirely upon the size of the commitments, because the number of potential subscribers is limited to our member-families and others who are interested in our Church activities and using our Church's facilities. The total amount raised will depend entirely upon the Standard of Giving that is established.

The commitment of each individual should be determined by ability to give, but one's willingness sometimes needs to be brought into line with one's ability. The secret of success in this Canvass lies in our willingness to place this cause among our first responsibilities during the next 150 weeks.

Payments on commitments of $1,500 and under should be made in weekly installments for 150 weeks. For example:

Weekly Payments of	Amount to
$10.00 for 150 weeks	$1,500
7.00 for 150 weeks	1,050
5.00 for 150 weeks	750
3.00 for 150 weeks	450
2.00 for 150 weeks	300

Payments on commitments for more than $1,500 can be made in annual, semi-annual, quarterly, or monthly payments. For example:

Annual Payments of	Amount to
$5,000 for 3 years	$15,000
3,333 for 3 years	10,000
2,500 for 3 years	7,500
1,666 for 3 years	5,000
1,000 for 3 years	3,000
666 for 3 years	2,000

"Upon the first day of the week, let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him."
—I Corinthians 16:2

Our Responsibility

There is nothing complicated or high pressure about our financial plan. We are simply asking that every member and friend of the Church set aside a generous and sacrificial portion of their income each week for a period of 150 weeks and that they give the Church a true priority on their contributions during that period of time.

These gifts must be *over and above our present contributions* to the regular operating budget. The program of the Church must go on, and a curtailment in the budget giving would be short-sighted churchmanship.

Beginning about the time you receive this booklet, every family in any way affiliated with our Church will be visited and given an opportunity to invest in this great program.

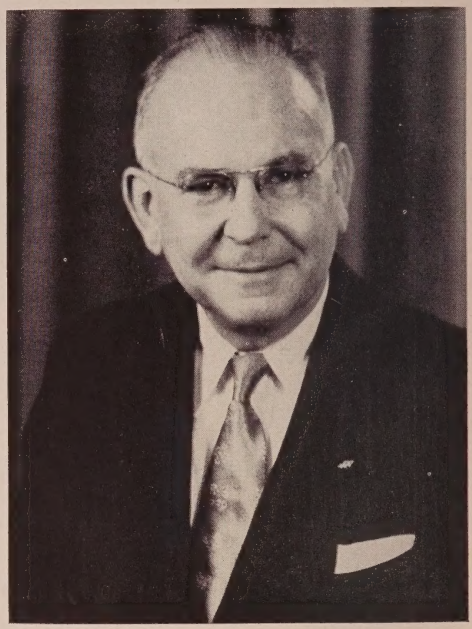
Payments may be planned according to the wishes of each individual subscriber. Since the total needed for our expansion program is a large sum if thought of in terms of cash gifts, we would jeopardize the probability of attaining our goal by attempting to make the total gifts in cash. Total gifts can be much larger if weekly payments are kept in mind; for just as it is easier to make large purchases on the installment plan, so it is easier to make gifts in the amounts needed on a weekly basis.

Commitment cards will be presented to members of our Church. It should be remembered that making a commitment in this canvass is not like signing a note for the amount subscribed. We are simply asking that you indicate on the commitment card how much you feel you will be able to give during the three-year period.

If your financial circumstances change, or if you should suffer any misfortune which would make the continuation of payments an undue hardship on you, your commitment may be decreased or discontinued simply by notifying the Church Office. If your financial circumstances change for the better, we hope you will want to increase your commitment. It is our hope to provide for the future generations in proportion to our giving ability.

This is the Once-in-a-lifetime Opportunity for most of our members to have a part in a Church development enterprise. This is OUR DAY of Christian Responsibility.

Until a present generation family has made at least one sacrificial gift to the development of some Church, every time a member of that family uses a Church, he in increasing his indebtedness to an earlier generation and has not met his full obligation to build for the needs of his day.



LEANDER M. FUNK

Entrusted with a great tradition, enjoying a great fellowship, we face our Christian Responsibility for Today.

LEANDER M. FUNK,
Initial Gifts Chairman

"Blow the trumpet, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly." —Joel 2:15

What is My Part?

The Christian Standard of Giving begins with $2.00 per week for each $1000.00 of annual income or the tithe, using this Biblical principle as a guide for giving. Many with capital resources feel that they want to give more than this amount to the Christ Lutheran Church Building Fund. This kind of giving calls for strength of will and courage to sacrifice.

ROBERT L. EIRICH

Only Sacrificial Giving will enable our Church to raise $250,000 in the next 150 weeks. Invariably, this kind of giving strengthens faith and brings the kind of interest that permits a Church to grow and render greater Christian service.

Sacrificial Giving results in a commitment for a larger amount than we thought would be possible for us. In our Church Building Fund Canvass our commitment should be for the largest amount we have ever given.

To complete this Church Building Fund Canvass the Church needs YOU—even as you need the CHURCH. It needs your prayers, your assistance, your energies, and your financial aid. Our commitments can and will complete our objectives and reveal our gratitude for God's blessings, our appreciation and our concern for the work of His Church.

How Much Shall I Give?

WE KNOW that you will want to consider seriously and prayerfully just what the measure of your support will be. If our Church is to raise $250,000 for our Building Fund, it will depend entirely upon the measure of our support.

There will be no high pressure solicitation, but instinctively we will not contribute more than a fraction of the amount to be raised unless we recognize that:

(1) "Giving" is a habit, usually a weak token-giving habit.

(2) "Pocketbook-protection" is an instinct, usually a strong one.

(3) Our interests follow our dollars; better-than-token giving will help increase our interest in our Church and even more important, in our spiritual lives.

(4) It is easy to criticize, but it takes courage to give sacrificially.

(5) Until a Christian family has made at least one sacrificial gift to the building of some Church, they are impoverishing their Christianity every time they use any Church building because they are content to live by what others have done without accepting responsibility themselves.

(6) Each of us must ask the Lord in prayer for the answer to, "How much can I give?"

No one will deny the needs of Christ Lutheran Church. Whether or not we can fulfill this need depends upon whether or not you and I have given sacrificially for its construction.

It is our hope to provide for our Church as we have been provided for. In proportion to our giving ability let us give.

ROBERT L. EIRICH,
Special Gifts Committee Chairman

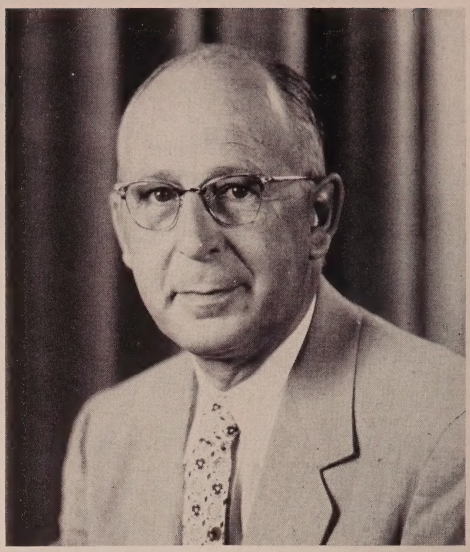
"Christ also loved the church and gave himself for it." —Ephesians 5:25

How To Make Our Commitment

In the careful and prayerful consideration of "How much shall we give?" we should think of several points, for the size of our commitments will depend upon:

1. Our Christian Faith.
2. Our interest in the Church program.
3. Our recognition of the need.
4. Our concern for extended service.
5. Our financial ability.
6. Our method of paying the commitments.
7. Our willingness to sacrifice.
8. Our desire to encourage others to sacrifice.
9. Our willingness to trust God and believe His promise.
10. Our faithfulness in prayer.

One of the greatest experiences in the life of a Christian is that of helping to build a Church. To extend the services of his Church in the community is to widen his own horizons of Christian living and fellowship. Until he has made an investment in the building of a Church, he is more or less accepting the farsighted charity of others, every time he or his children use a Church.



J. CHARLES STROTT

Remember that the greatest effect of sacrificial giving is upon the donor himself. The spiritual value of sacrifice has been known to man since before Christianity. There would be no Christians today if it were not for the great sacrifices of our early Christian leaders. You and your family are requested to begin now giving serious, prayerful consideration to the amount you will endeavor to contribute for your Church.

J. CHARLES STROTT,
Teams Committee Chairman

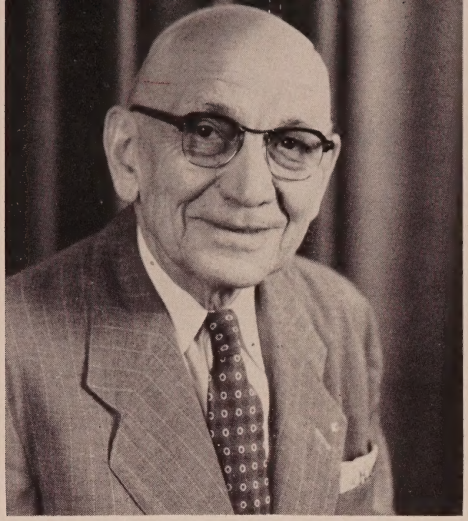
My Commitment Should Be

One determined after prayer for God's guidance.

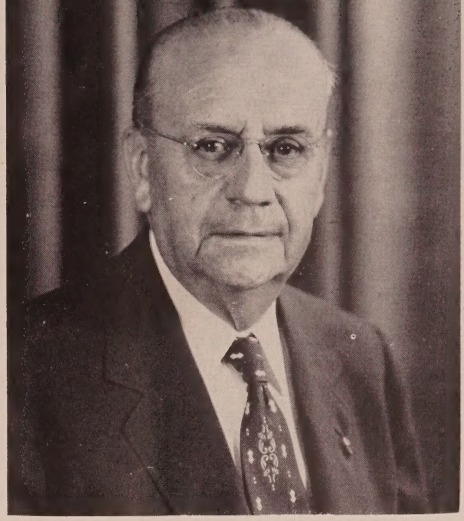
One that brings an inner conviction of satisfaction.

One about which I can talk to others without apology.

"Whereupon I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision."—Acts 26:19



JOHN R. HEINZERLING
Treasurer



WILLIAM C. MARKERT
Canvass Treasurer

VERNON J. CONGLETON
Publications Chairman

The Volunteer Canvasser

WILLIAM E. DODGE
Arrangements Chairman

A long awaited day has come to the members of our Church. Very soon now, one of your neighbors will be calling on you to talk about our new Church development plans. We all know that a project of this size and importance will demand our very best efforts.

It means sacrifice of time and money as well as consecration. It means prayer for guidance. It means that each one of us must look into his own inner self and decide how much he can do for the cause. It means faith in the other fellow and faith in ourselves. The volunteer worker who calls at your home is one of many. He has spent many hours training himself for the task. He has given generously of his own money. He has pledged himself to give more in the future. He believes in the worthwhileness of our Church and its work, and is proving his faith by calling on others. His is not an easy job. But YOU can help him by extending your welcome when he comes, and by listening to his story.

The responsibility for our Church and the opportunity to sacrifice for it are ours. Let us face the challenge with determination and give our best.

". . . . *for the people had a mind to work.*" —Nehemiah 4:16

There Are Two Seas

There are two seas in Palestine. One is fresh and fish are in it. Splashes of green adorn its banks. Trees spread their branches over it, and stretch out their roots to sip of its healing water. Along its shores the children play.

The River Jordan makes this sea with sparkling water from the hills. So it laughs in the sunshine. And men build their houses near it, and birds make their nests; and every kind of life is happier because it is there.

The River Jordan flows on south into another sea. There is no splash of fish, no fluttering of leaf, no song of birds, no children's laughter. Travelers choose another route, unless on urgent business. The air hangs heavy about its waters and neither man nor beast nor fowl will drink. What makes this difference in these neighbor seas? Not the River Jordan. Not the soil in which they lie; nor the country round about.

This is the difference. The Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the Jordan. For every drop that flows into it, another flows out. The giving and receiving go in equal measure. The other sea is shrewder, hoarding its income jealously. It will not be tempted into any generous impulse. Every drop it gets, it keeps. The Sea of Galilee gives and lives. The other sea gives nothing. It is named the Dead Sea.

There are two kinds of people in the world. There are two seas in Palestine.

—Bruce Barton
Foxboro, Mass.

"Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down and shaken together and running over shall men give unto your bosom."
—Luke 6:38

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